

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING OF THE
Governor's Forest Health ADVISORY COUNCIL

Thursday, March 11th, 2004 at 1:30 p.m.

Council members present:

Bob Broscheid, Carl Edminster, Taylor McKinnon, Marty Moore, Kirk Rowdabough, Karl Siderits, Ed Smith, Beth Zimmerman

Council members absent: Steve Campbell, Wally Covington, Deb Hill, Brian Nowicki, Thomas Swetnam, Richard Van Demark,

The agenda for the regular meeting is as follows:

1) Call to order, welcome.

2) Approval of minutes from the 2.12.04 meeting

a. Don Falk moves

b. Ed Smith seconds motion

i. Discussion

1. One minor change to Karl's presentation

2. Communities at Risk – now posted www.azstatefire.org

a. Don Falk moves amendment

b. Ed Smith seconds amendment

3) Subcommittees

a. Reports

i. Utilization & Commerce – Marty Moore

1. Will be completing Guiding Principles and then will be able to update timeline. The workshop was effective and surfaced some issues that still need to be discussed.

ii. Land Use & Wildland Fire – Don Falk

1. Goal of the subcommittee is to produce white paper to present to council for adoption. References, web resources, and other useful elements. Address fundamental issues of fire behavior. Most likely to override treated areas.

2. Time line: first draft in a month. Literature and website references will be included.

a. Smoke / smoke management (scientific case for forest health issues)

b. Relationship of fireproofing of homes and fire (will it allow fire to return to the landscape.

c. Cost for fighting fire in areas that has dispersed development

d. Interaction of land use and growth with forest health.

e. Technical tools

iii. Mapping & Assessment – Kathy Hemenway

1. Mapping exhibit for conference

2. ESRI Fire specialist will be speaking (details to follow)

3. Gene did an emergency response map service. May interface with the fuels treatments purpose.

4. Next meeting will be in Conference Room #321, 1616 West Adams, State Land Department, April 15th.

5. Need to get in touch with the potential users. Community groups, AICG - wildland fire fighters, community groups, and ask them what questions they want the database to answer.

- 4) Stewardship Contracting
 - a. Rufus Cole, Contracting Specialist, USFS
 - i. **Implementation of Stewardship Contract projects allow for long term contracts (10 years).**
 - ii. **Presentation will be posted on Forest Health website.**
 - iii. **www.fedbizopps.gov should be added to website.**
- 5) Developing Community Wildfire Protection Plans Under the HFRA
 - a. Jay Jenson, Legislative and Policy Director, Western Forestry Leadership Coalition
 - i. **Healthy Forests Restoration Act**
 - ii. **See PL 108-148 Handout**
 1. **Title 1 & Title 2 - Biomass**
 - a. **Heart and soul of the act. Where the primary emphasis lies. Balance the need for treatment on the ground with the need for public participation and involvement.**
 - b. **½ money allotted is to go towards WUI communities.**
 2. **Title 3 - Water Shed and Water Shed health**
 - a. **Authority for \$15 mil to deal with h2O quality/quantity issues**
 3. **Title 4 - Categorical exclusion (NEPA) dealing with research related to forest treatments dealing with forest health. FEDERAL LANDS – not yet funded.**
 4. **Field Guide will ID communities at risk – guide is from the Communities at Risk Council.**
 5. **Relationship between the CWPP and the Healthy Forest Restoration Act – some communities are already going with this and it could become a hodge-podge. Nothing to incentivize these projects... Prioritization of communities isn't productive, prioritization of projects is.**
 6. **Community Fire Assistance Program (federal).**
 7. **Community Wildfire Protection Plan = specific to Healthy Forest Restoration Act. 3 minimum elements required**
 - a. **Must be developed collaboratively (State, local government authority, local fire authority)**
 - b. **ID and prioritized fuel treatment areas w/in and around community.**
 - c. **Must address structural ignitability.**
- 6) Legislative Update
 - a. Lori Faeth covered by Heather Garbarino
 - i. **Present legislation to community groups in your area. Heather will forward you information and CD if you're interested. PowerPoint presentation is available.**
- 7) March 19, 2004 Governor's Forest Health Conference in Prescott
 - a. **Draft Agenda – available the week of March 15th on website.**
 - b. **Facilitators & those with specific assignments meet with Lori after for clarification of expectations. Held 3/11/04 at 10:00 AM.**
- 8) Executive Order Goals Work Plan & Timeline Update
 - a. **Update work plan (Co-Chairs)**
- 9) Executive Order Goal: Monitor and evaluate results of existing demonstration restoration projects in Arizona to share lessons learned.
 - a. ERI draft report, synthesis & next steps
 - i. **General feeling was that it was a good start, but fell short of sharing lessons learned. Input was sought from Lori Faeth and response was to focus on specific projects. Perhaps grant money could be sought to fund the**

synthesis. Thoughts from Mr. Smith: focus efforts on thinning and burning activities and then broaden to areas that threaten our communities – community protection.

1. Perhaps a SUBCOMMITTEE to help outline the document that will show how this info can be useful. Use info gained from goal # 2 can be used, too.
2. Mr. Rowdabough wonders if there are enough substantial projects to demonstrate a substantial impact on fire safety.
3. Mr. Siderits wonders if we've been altering with fire safety in mind or rather aesthetics?

JFSP Grant funding available? Would allow for the funding of the composition of a cohesive document of projects, monitoring, and lessons learned. ERI may be working on a study along these lines – perhaps join forces... Taylor, Ed, Carl, Leonard Lucero, Tom Zimmerman may all need to chat with Wally at the FHC. Perhaps the Nature Conservancy? Ed Smith accepted the request to plan the meeting during lunch at the Governor's Conference and will report back at the next meeting.

- b. Other activities to satisfy goal
 - i. See above...

10) Future meeting dates and locations

- a. Set 2004 schedule
 - i. April 8th
 - ii. **May 13th**
 - iii. **June 10th**
 - iv. **July**
 - v. **August**
 - vi. **September**

Phoenix @ County Supervisor's Association
Pine / Strawberry
Heber / Overgaard
Summerhaven
Flagstaff
Greer

11) Call to the Public

NONE

12) Adjournment